



Pedro Nava

Assembly Member

REPRESENTING ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 35



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Assemblymember Pedro Nava Introduces Women's Health Measures

Sacramento – Assemblymember Nava has teamed up with Santa Barbara County Supervisor Janet Wolf, and the Junior Leagues of California to introduce two important women's health measures for the 2009-10 Legislative Session.

Assembly Bill 159 – The Healthy Mothers Act

Assemblymember Nava has partnered with the Junior Leagues of California to introduce Assembly Bill 159, The Healthy Mothers Act. "Perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (PMAD) are very real for woman and their families and there needs to be standardized screening and services provided. This legislation is vital to raise awareness, create guidelines for healthcare professionals and to protect new mothers and their families," said Nava.

AB 159 asks the California Department of Public Health to establish a statewide Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorder Task Force consisting of healthcare professionals and other stakeholders to develop a best practices model for public awareness and standard of care for PMAD. Additionally, the Task Force may undertake public education activities related to the disorder to raise awareness for healthcare professionals, pregnant women, new mothers, and their families.

Perinatal mood and anxiety disorders occur during pregnancy as well as during the postpartum period. These disorders can take many forms, including depression, anxiety, and psychosis. The afflictions can have potentially serious repercussions for the emotional, social, and physical health and well-being of mothers, children, and families. National studies indicate that one in eight women suffer from these disorders, -- 80% of whom go undiagnosed and untreated.

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Assemblymember Nava Introduces Animal Cruelty Prevention Package



Assemblymember Nava and supporters announce Animal Cruelty Prevention legislation on the steps of the Capitol.

Sacramento – Assemblymember Nava has joined with The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Social Compassion in Legislation (SCIL), and the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office to introduce his 2009 Animal Cruelty Prevention Package.

"Recent events around the country brought to consciousness the brutality of puppy mills, dogfighting, and animal cruelty. California must take the lead in setting an example for the humane treatment of animals," said Nava.

Assembly Bill 241 – The Responsible Breeder Act of 2009

Assembly Bill 241 will limit to 50 the number of non-spayed or neutered dogs or cats that a seller may possess to limit the spread of "puppy mills" in California. AB 241 is jointly sponsored by the ASPCA, Social Compassion in Legislation, and HSUS.

Only half of the dogs bred at mills survive to market. Of those that do make it to stores, thousands of puppies each year are sold to "impulse buyers" and ultimately end up in shelters. In fact, nearly one million dogs and cats land in California animal shelters every year, of whom approximately half are euthanized.

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Said Wendy J. Penbera, Chair of the State Public Affairs Committee, Junior Leagues of California, "It is with great pride that the Junior Leagues of California will be working with Assemblymember Nava in advocating for women and their families who suffer from PMAD. There may be as many as 800,000 new cases in the United States each year. We believe that this measure, if enacted, will help provide countless women, infants and their families in California with greater and more consistent education, services and treatment for PMAD. Our hope is to send a message which acknowledges that PMAD is not a badge of shame but, rather, a hurdle that can be overcome with support, counseling and treatment resources."

Assembly Bill 359 – Digital Mammograms

Assemblymember Nava and Santa Barbara County Supervisor Janet Wolf are working together on Assembly Bill 359. It will require digital mammography screening to be covered under the "Every Woman Counts" (EWC) Cancer Detection Program administered by the California Department of Public Health when analog mammography is not available. Under current law, the EWC program only provides coverage for analog mammography – regardless of the fact that many doctors are upgrading to digital detection and diagnosis of breast cancer.



Supervisor Janet Wolf (left) discusses Assembly Bill 359 with Assemblymember Pedro Nava (right).

"My thanks to Supervisor Wolf for bringing this idea to me. I enjoy working with her, and together we will be improving health care for California women. Breast cancer is a devastating disease, with more than 25,000 California women being diagnosed each year. By providing early screening and detection to all women, regardless of economic standing or geographic location, we will save lives," said Nava.

Said Santa Barbara County Supervisor, Janet Wolf, "I'm pleased that Assemblymember Nava has taken the initiative to sponsor a bill that will expand women's access to preventative health care – specifically allowing digital mammogram coverage for California women. Santa Barbara County's Public Health Department advises that over 1,200 women in the Lompoc and Santa Maria area currently must travel long distances because their health care coverage allows only analog mammograms, and most providers are switching to digital."

AB 359 will bring modern health tools into communities and increase doctors' options for early detection.

Assembly Bill 242 – The Dogfighting Prevention Act of 2009

Dogfighting is a sadistic 'contest' in which two dogs are placed in a pit to fight each other for the spectators' entertainment and gambling. Dogfights end when one of the dogs will not or cannot continue – many die of blood loss, shock, dehydration, exhaustion or infection. It is estimated that 40,000 people are involved in this crime resulting in injury or death to nearly 250,000 dogs annually. Law enforcement believes that at least 100,000 additional persons participate in 'street level' dogfights.

Under current state law, it is a felony to actively participate in a dogfight. California is the only Western state where being a spectator is a misdemeanor. Under Assembly Bill 242, being a spectator will now be a felony. Law enforcement has asked for and welcomes this change. AB 242 is sponsored by HSUS.

Dogfights attract illegal gambling, illegal drugs, and guns. Sometimes young children are present at these events.

Assembly Bill 243 – The Animal Cruelty Prevention Act of 2009

Currently, as a condition of probation, a court **may** order that a person convicted of certain animal related crimes and placed on probation be prohibited from owning, possessing, or having contact with animals. A court has no power to issue a "no ownership" order for defendants convicted of felony animal cruelty offenses who are sentenced to state prison. Assembly Bill 243 changes this by making it **mandatory** for a judge to prohibit persons convicted of specified crimes from having any contact with animals for a minimum period of time.

Ventura Businessman Yvon Chouinard Honored by Assemblymember Nava



Assemblymember Nava (right) presents a certificate of recognition to Patagonia, Inc. owner, Yvon Chouinard (left) at a Sierra Club event in Santa Barbara.

Assemblymember Nava is proud to announce a special recognition for Patagonia, Inc. business owner Yvon Chouinard. Mr. Chouinard has set an example that entrepreneurs and business people around the world should aspire to follow. Nava honored Mr. Chouinard at a recent Sierra Club event in Santa Barbara.

"I'm grateful for this opportunity to recognize Mr. Chouinard as a responsible businessman and environmental hero," said Nava. "He is a trailblazer and through his example has demonstrated that you can operate a successful business, minimize environmental impacts and promote a healthy work-life balance for all employees."

Patagonia is an environmentally and socially responsible business. In a world of inexpensive disposable products manufactured with a large environmental footprint, Mr. Chouinard's

business produces high quality products, has an excellent working environment, promotes sustainable practices, and contributes to vital environmental organizations.

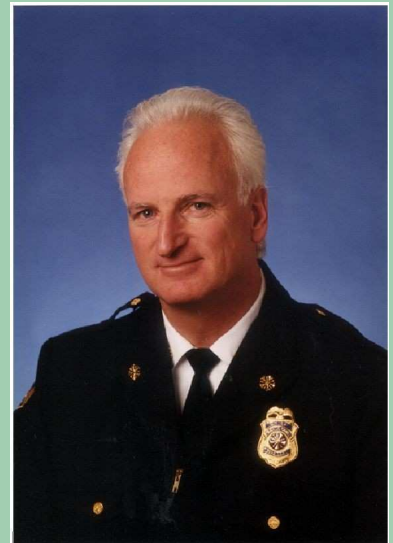
City of Santa Barbara Fire Chief Ron Prince to Retire After 35 Years of Service

Santa Barbara- Ron Prince, Fire Chief of the City of Santa Barbara announced his February retirement after 35 years of distinguished public service. Over the past twenty-four years, Prince has served as fire chief for three municipalities, and has been actively involved in many state and national fire service organizations.

Prince began his fire service career in Prescott, Arizona, where he was promoted through the ranks and appointed as fire chief at the young age of 30. In the mid-1990's, Prince returned home to northern California to serve as fire chief for the City of Santa Cruz, where he worked for 12 years. He has always been on the forefront of helping develop effective emergency operations systems and inter-agency cooperative initiatives.

During his tenure as Fire Chief in Santa Barbara, he played a crucial role in the development of numerous inter-governmental agreements and joint powers authorities, and has earned a reputation as an innovator and praised for his public service commitment.

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City of Santa Barbara Fire Chief
Ron Prince

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Prince is past president of the Santa Barbara County Fire Chiefs Association, and an adjunct instructor for the National Fire Academy. In addition to his contributions as an educator, he co-authored a technical reference manual called "Development Strategies in the Wildland/Urban Interface."

"I would like to congratulate Fire Chief Prince on his well-earned retirement, and thank him for his many years of work keeping our residents safe," said Assemblymember Nava, past chair of the Joint Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland Security. "I wish him the best of luck in his retirement and any future endeavors."

Assembly Speaker Karen Bass Appoints Assemblymember Nava to the California Coastal Conservancy



Assemblymember Nava has been appointed to the California Coastal Conservancy. The Conservancy, established in 1976, is a state agency that uses entrepreneurial techniques to purchase, protect, restore, and enhance coastal resources, and to provide access to the shore. It works in partnership with local governments, other public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners.

"Being a member of the Coastal Conservancy will give me another avenue to protect and preserve California's Coast," said Assemblymember Nava, "I am grateful to Speaker Bass for the appointment and look forward to contributing to the Conservancies efforts to restore coastal habitat and improve coastal access."

To date, the Conservancy has undertaken more than 1,800 projects along the 1,100 mile California coastline. These projects often accomplish more than one Conservancy goal. Through such projects, the Conservancy:

- protects and improves coastal wetlands, streams, and watersheds;
- helps people get to coast and bay shores by building trails and stairways and by acquiring land and easements. The Conservancy also assists in the creation of low-cost accommodations along the coast, including campgrounds and hostels;
- works with local communities to revitalize urban waterfronts;
- helps to solve complex land-use problems;
- purchases and holds environmentally valuable coastal and bay lands;
- protects agricultural lands and supports coastal agriculture;
- accepts donations and dedications of land and easements for public access, wildlife habitat, agriculture, and open space.

In addition to being a member of the Coastal Conservancy, Assemblymember Nava is the Assembly Representative to the Ocean Protection Council and a member of the Assembly Coastal Caucus.

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